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Docket No.: R2184.0088/P088-A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Susumu Katagiri

Application No.: 10/653,221

Confirmation No.: 2742

Filed: September 3, 2003

Art Unit: 2653

For: DATA RECORDING/REPRODUCTION
APPARATUS

Examiner: C. R. Magee

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated July 13, 2005, please reconsider the above-referenced application in light of the following remarks.

Claims 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Saito in view of Lee. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

As discussed previously, it would not have been obvious to use the guard rail end 23a, 23b of Lee in place of or as a modification of the Saito shafts 13a, 13b. The applicability of one to the other would not have been understood or appreciated without the benefit of Applicant's disclosure. The reason the guard rail end 23a, 23b is